

OPEN CASEMENT HEARING IN LONDON

SCOTT HOPES FOR BEST IN MEXICO CASE

Expresses Optimistic View of Border Situation as Parley Result.

BACK IN WASHINGTON

General Confers With Secretary Baker—Makes No Formal Report.

Washington, May 15.—Major-General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, returned today from his border conference with General Obregon, hopeful for the situation, though the conference resulted in no formal agreement for cooperative action. The chief of staff conferred with Secretary Baker but made no formal report. Secretary Baker said General Scott stated he thought a favorable situation had been created by the conference.

General Scott will see Secretary Lansing tomorrow and meanwhile no steps will be taken to reopen diplomatic negotiations for a formal agreement with General Carranza. Secretary Baker indicated however, that General Scott thought there would be no great delay in arriving at an understanding and formulating a protocol.

Pending the ratification of an agreement, Carranza troops are being moved forward into the bandit ridden portions of Mexico. The American expeditionary force under General Pershing is being withdrawn into strong groups on the line of communication where it will await the outcome of Carranza's effort to clean up the territory to the south. General Pershing has mapped out a coordinated scheme for border patrol with the 25,000 men he will soon have available for that purpose, exclusive of the 14,000 or so in General Pershing's column.

On his return today from El Paso Major-General Scott, chief of staff, had a detailed report of his protracted conference with General Obregon. Carranza's war minister, to present to President Wilson, Secretary Baker and Secretary Lansing. Officials were anxious to learn precisely why the Mexican general declined to sign an agreement covering operation of American troops in Mexico, particularly in view of official notification that General Carranza had approved the original draft of the protocol.

General Scott's discussions with officials probably will occupy several days. Not until they are completed will diplomatic conferences be arranged with Eliseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, on the disposition of American troops and the vexatious questions of protecting the American bandit raids.

Concentrating Troops. The war department today had a report from General Pershing saying the new concentration of troops ordered by General Pershing after the El Paso conference, was being conducted satisfactorily. This was interpreted as meaning the supply lines were being shortened. There were no indications today that the national guard of any other states would be called on soon to strengthen the border patrol.

Mule Outlines Auto. Field Headquarters, May 8, (by army motor truck to Columbus, N. M. May 15).—The value of the army mule, which wavered momentarily when automobile trucks in the Villa chase demonstrated their adaptability for mountain transportation, has been vindicated by the result of this campaign.

In transporting supplies overland to the main bases, through a country without railroads, the automobile trucks have proven much superior to the old-fashioned mule wagon teams, the reliance when General Pershing was pursued through this same country. Meanwhile the mules as pack animals have gone beyond the new truck lines into

(Continued On Page Three.)

Gompers Scores Manufacturers. New York, May 15.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a telegram received today by Benjamin Schlesinger, leader of the 40,000 striking garment workers, scored the manufacturers, and assured the strikers of the active support of the federation. Mr. Gompers will come here May 21.

Negro Slayer Is Burned to Death by Mob

Waco, Texas, May 15.—With 15,000 persons as witnesses, including women and children, Jesse Washington, negro boy, who confessed to the criminal assault and murder of Mrs. Lacey Fryar, seven miles south of here last Monday afternoon, was taken from the fifth court district room shortly before noon today and burned on the public square.

The burning came immediately after the negro's trial had ended and after the jury had returned a verdict of guilty, giving him the death penalty. Some one not far from the negro started the cry of "get the negro."

It was taken up by all of those from that part of the county where Mrs. Fryar was killed and Washington was then seized and removed from the court room.

The mob at first seemed willing to hang the negro from the suspension bridge, but a suggestion that he be burned on the plaza met with instant response and he was dragged to the city hall yard, where the chain already around his neck was thrown over the limb of a tree and the fire started.

When the flames had subsided somewhat some one in the mob cut off the negro's fingers and other parts of his body.

FRAMING PROTEST TO GREAT BRITAIN

Washington, May 15.—The American government, in preparing a protest characterized by officials as "very vigorous" against the interference with mails to and from the United States by Great Britain. A note to be sent forward in the near future will take the position that the United States can no longer countenance seizure and detention of mails to and from the United States, particularly those concerning neutrals.

The reply recently received from Great Britain to the last American note protesting against interference with American mails is considered unsatisfactory.

Protests have been made to the government by many individuals and firms who have been injured by the frequent long delays to which mails between Europe and the United States have been subjected.

The subject is under detailed study at the state department. President Wilson will inform the British government that the United States considers it imperative that the present British policy be modified.

ROCKEFELLER PLANS BIG Y.M.C.A. "TRUST"

Cleveland, Ohio, May 15.—John D. Rockefeller Jr., Major-General Leonard Wood and Assistant Secretary of Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt were speakers at today's sessions of the international Y. M. C. A. convention here.

Mr. Rockefeller told how to organize a Christianity "trust" which he declared would sweep the forces of evil out of competition. He scored ministers who preach "flowery beds of ease" religion, rapped partisan denominationalism and took a fling at business men who fattened their bank accounts on the war in Europe.

The only infantry engagements of importance, according to the latest reports from the war front, have occurred in Asiatic Turkey between the Russians and the Turks.

In the region south of the Black sea and west of the Persian border the Russians are trying to reach Mesopotamia, with Baghdad and a junction with the British forces as their objective.

Northwest of Erzurum the Turks claim to have repulsed the Russians with heavy losses. The Russians admit the Turks forced their advance guards to retire at some points, but say the Russian forces resisted in their attacks after having suffered "extremely heavy" casualties.

The Italians vigorously attacked the Austrians on the Dobro plateau, west of San Martino, but they were repulsed, according to Vienna.

An address yesterday by President Poincare of France has attracted wide attention. The central powers, he said, had not offered France peace and France did not want such an offer. "We want them to ask it of us," said the president. "We do not want to submit to their conditions; we want to impose ours on them."

Sharper fighting is now in progress in other sectors of the western front than in the Verdun region, upon which attention has been chiefly centered for nearly three months.

Notable activity has been reported along the British lines in northern France and Flanders, and today Paris records brisk action by the artillery on both sides in the Champagne, the scene of the main French drive in last September's offensive.

CANNON ROAR IS UNABATED NEAR VERDUN

Heavy Bombardment of Positions Around Avocourt Wood Continues.

FRENCH DRIVE FAILS

Germans Claim Attacks of Foe at Le Mort Homme Are Unsuccessful.

Paris, May 15, (11:45 a. m.)—The bombardment in the region of the Avocourt wood and Hill 304 in the Verdun section still continues, according to an official statement issued today by the French war office. In a small engagement west of Mount Tetu in Champagne the French captured 15 prisoners. Calm is reported on the rest of the front.

The text of the statement follows: "South of the Somme near Verdun, we delivered a coup de main which permitted us to clear the enemy from a first line trench."

"In Champagne there was great artillery activity on both sides in the sectors of Maisons de Champagne and the Butte D'Ennil. An invasion of a German work west of Mount Tetu permitted us to capture 15 prisoners."

"In the Verdun region there were bombardments in the sector of the woods of Avocourt and Hill 304."

Belgian Forces Gain.

Further successes for the Belgian expedition which has invaded German East Africa were announced in the official statement issued today by the Belgian war department at Havre.

The statement says that Colonel Molitor, in command of the southern column, occupied Kigali, capital of the German province of Ruanda on May 8. The Belgian troops have also captured the island of Kivu in Lake Kivu which the Germans took by surprise at the beginning of the war.

German War Report.

Berlin, May 15, (via wireless to Sayville).—The British have been attacking the German lines near Hulluck, in northern France in an effort to recapture the trenches recently taken by the Germans there, but all their attempts have been repulsed, according to today's statement by the war office.

In the Verdun region the French failed in attacks near Dead Man's Hill and near the Callette wood.

"The text of today's headquarters statement is as follows: "Western theatre: The artillery and patrols on both sides have been active in many sections."

"The enemy attempted to recapture the positions taken by the Germans near Hulluck. All his attempts either broke down under the German artillery fire or were repulsed in hand to hand fighting."

"French attacks in the Meuse district on the west slope of Dead Man's Hill and near the Callette wood were easily repulsed."

Austro War Report.

The following is the official Austrian report of May 13:

"Italian front: Our troops repulsed several attacks on the northern slope of Monte San Michele. The Italians suffered heavy losses."

"Russian and Balkan fronts: The situation is unchanged."

WILSONS RETURN FROM BOAT TRIP

Washington, May 15.—President and Mrs. Wilson returned early today from their week end cruise aboard the naval yacht Mayflower. The home trip was without special incident.

Immediately after his return to the White house the president read several dispatches on Mexico received since his departure Friday, which General Bliss, acting chief of staff, thought were not important enough to send him by wireless. He had engagements with a large number of senators and representatives to discuss legislative matters and saw Governor Dunne of Illinois.

WOMAN AGAIN IS MACOMB'S JUDGE

Springfield, Ill., May 15.—Miss Josie Westfall is once more city judge of Macomb, Ill. An order has been issued by Chief Justice Duncan of the state supreme court, staying the mandate of the supreme court, which at the last term held that Dean Franklin had been elected city judge of Macomb, as he had received a preponderance of men's votes at an election at which women could not legally vote. Miss Westfall received more votes than Franklin, but this was due to the number of women who voted for her.

THE INNOCENT BYSTANDER



THREE VILLA MEN SLAIN IN CLASH, CLAIM

Skirmish With American Force Ends Fatally to Mexican Bandits.

Lake Itasca, Mexico, May 11 (by wireless to Columbus, N. M., May 15).—Three bandits, including Julio Cardenas, the Villista leader, were killed in a skirmish with an American detachment near Rubio ranch, 20 miles east of here today. There were no American casualties.

Brownsville, Texas, May 15.—A considerable number of armed Mexicans are patrolling the Rio Grande opposite Hidalgo, Texas, 65 miles west of here, according to a report received today at Fort Brown. This report was given to Consul J. J. Garza by Colonel A. P. Blockson with a request that an investigation be made.

Renewed activity on the part of Aniceto Pizana and Luis De La Rosa, alleged leaders of the "Texas revolution," also was reported.

Washington, May 15.—State department advices today said most of the Americans in the San Luis Potosi districts had obtained transportation either to the Mexican coast or to the United States. Only 40 remain. None is destitute.

The consul at Manzanillo said arrangements had been made for Americans desiring to leave that port. Steamers will leave for California with refugees May 25 and June 15.

The situation at Piedras Negras is improving, through train service there and at other points is irregular because of a strike of railroad employees.

DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE. Considered the nomination of George Rubie to the federal trade commission in executive session.

HOUSE. Resumed discussion rural credits bill.

Latest Bulletins

London, May 15.—The foreign office announced today that the outstanding differences between Greece and the entente powers had been settled amicably with the result that there would be no violation of the neutrality of Greece.

Washington, May 15.—President Wilson has asked John W. Westcott, attorney-general of New Jersey, who made the speech nominating him at the Baltimore convention to make the nominating speech at St. Louis, Mr. Westcott has accepted and conferred today with the president.

Burlington, Iowa, May 15.—Mrs. Anthony H. Evans of New York City, was reelected international president of the Kings' Daughters at the biennial convention here today. Other officers were likewise honored.

Santa Fe, N. M., May 15.—Governor McComb today granted a 21 day reprieve to the seven Villa bandits sentenced to hang May 19 for complicity in the raid on Columbus.

Start Move for Freedom of the Poles

Los Angeles, Cal., May 15.—A movement which its sponsors hope will result in the freeing of Poland was under way here today as a result of a mass meeting held yesterday under the auspices of the Polish-American War Sufferers' Relief league.

A resolution declaring that the "Poland and the Polish nation shall be free and independent from allegiance, vassalage or obligation to any political or diplomatic power, doctrine, tradition, dictation or influence," was adopted. It was addressed to "the nations, arbitrators, and international judges for peace and justice in the world," and will be sent to the peace tribunal which will draw up terms at the close of the European war, it was said.

Colonel John Sobieski of this city, who is said to be a descendant of King John III, the last king of Poland, presided and delivered a brief address. Similar action by Poles elsewhere in the United States was expected, it was said.

BOMB DESTROYS BUILDER'S HOME

Explosive Under Porch Wrecks House of Chicago Contractor—Blame Labor Troubles.

Chicago, May 15.—The home of Patrick Dignan, a contractor, was partly wrecked by a bomb early this morning, the porch being blown off, windows broken and plaster knocked from the walls. The bomb, thought by the police to have been made of dynamite, was placed under the porch at the front of the house.

Persons living in the house were badly bruised and thrown from their beds but none was seriously injured. The police believe the act was the result of labor troubles. Windows in buildings in adjoining blocks were broken by the force of the explosion.

Dignan was recently acquitted of the murder of George Hammond, business agent of the Excavators and Asphalt Teamsters' union.

Dignan shot and killed Hammond in 1914, after they had quarreled and when the latter was about to shoot the contractor, according to the defense. Dignan alleged that Hammond had attempted to extort money from him and had called strikes on him when he failed to pay the business agent. This led to the fight in which Hammond was killed.

TRAINMEN MEET, TO DISCUSS 8-HOUR DAY

Detroit, Mich., May 15.—The proposed eight-hour day for engineers, firemen and other members of train crews, was expected to be the most important question discussed at the national convention of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen which opened here today. The convention will probably not adjourn until June 1. The ladies' auxiliary also convened.

Many speakers are to discuss phases of the trainmen's fight for shorter hours and less overtime. It has been claimed by members of the brotherhood that the work now accomplished in a trainman's day of 19 hours, could be done in eight hours by increasing the speed of transportation service from the present rate of 10 miles an hour to a 12½-mile rate. Railroad officials have declared the plan too costly to adopt.

EIGHT LIVES SNUFFED OUT IN EXPLOSION

Blast of Powder Mill of Du Pont Company Also Injures a Dozen Men.

Gibbstown, N. J., May 15.—Eight men are reported killed and a dozen injured in an explosion today at the Repanno plant of the Du Pont Powder company here. Among the dead are believed to be the superintendent and his assistant.

Employees of the company said they would be unable to give the exact number of killed and injured until the men had been checked up.

Five buildings were demolished by the explosion, which was felt a distance of many miles. So far as can be learned the blast occurred in a building where nitrate was being manufactured. Dynamite and other high explosives used for commercial purposes are manufactured at the Repanno plant.

Officers of the company said their best information is that four men were killed. Rescuers said that ten are dead. The superintendent, who was killed, was W. F. Lawley of Woodbury, N. J., and his assistant, who lost his life, was George Marsh of Paulsboro, N. J. The explosion occurred in the building where trinitrotoluol and trinitrobenzene were manufactured. Fire followed the explosion and destroyed other small buildings nearby.

CHICAGO WILL HAVE A DEFENSE PARADE

Chicago, May 15.—Following New York, great preparedness parade in which it was estimated 145,000 persons marched Saturday, William Mather Lewis, secretary of the Illinois naval league has ready for issuance a call to business and professional men, officials of commercial organizations and civic associations to formulate plans for a similar demonstration to be held in Chicago. A conference will be called at which it is planned to consider plans for the demonstration which will probably be held in June or July.

SMALL, LIVELY FROG IS TAKEN FROM MAN

Kansas City, May 15.—A small but lively frog was today expelled from the stomach of John Arnold by physicians at the Kansas City, Kan., emergency hospital. Arnold's story was that he swallowed the frog in drinking from the surface of a spring near the outskirts of the city. Arnold was rushed to a hospital where a powerful emetic was administered and the frog, about one-half inch in diameter, was cast up, lively and unharmed.

SON-IN-LAW HELD IN DOUBLE MURDER

Murphysboro, Ill., May 15.—Paul Ferrandelle, a wholesale grocer of St. Louis, was arrested here today to be held for investigation in connection with the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Picoraro here last Wednesday. The murdered couple were found in their home choked to death. The wife of Ferrandelle was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Picoraro.

REBEL CHIEF PUT ON TRIAL FOR TREASON

Sir Roger Is Arraigned Before Police Magistrate of Bow Street.

LEADER OF REVOLT

Prisoner Is Charged With Being the Instigator of Irish Rebellion.

London, May 15, (10:45 a. m.)—Sir Roger Casement, the supposed head and prime instigator of the Sinn Fein rebellion in Ireland, was arraigned today in the Bow Street police court and charged with high treason.

The few spectators who were permitted to enter the famous old police court were considerably surprised when a second prisoner was placed beside Casement in the dock. This man was Daniel Julian Bailey, a private soldier, whose home is at Wembley, a village near London. Bailey was arrested near Ardee, Ireland, on April 21. He was jointly charged with Casement with high treason, but his exact connection with the Sinn Fein has not so far been made public.

In the formal charge Casement is described as of no fixed abode. The charge against defendants reads:

Charged With High Treason.

"For that they did between the first day of November, 1914 and on divers other occasions between that day and the first day of April, 1916, unlawfully, maliciously and traitorously commit high treason within and without the realm of England in contempt of our sovereign lord, the king and his laws, to the evil example of others in like case and contrary to the duty and allegiance of the said defendants." Casement is reported to have made a long statement to the authorities and it is believed that this statement will considerably shorten the hearing before the magistrate. The police court hearing is merely a preliminary to the real trial, which will take place later before a panel of the judges of the high court of justice.

Casement Greatly Changed.

Attorney General Sir Frederick E. Smith, A. H. Bodkin and Travers Humphreys appeared for the prosecution and Professor J. H. Morgan and Artemus Jones for the defendants. Sir John Dickinson presided.

Shortly after the magistrate had taken his seat, Casement and his fellow prisoners were shown into the dock. Casement's appearance was vastly different from that of the man who gained fame in 1912 by his exposure of the cruelties practiced on natives in Putumayo by a British rubber company. He sat in the dock resting his chin on his hand and occasionally looking toward the magistrate.

When the attorney general, in opening the case for the prosecution, mentioned the conferring of the order of knighthood on Casement the prisoner dropped his head. The attorney general then outlined the prisoner's career.

Bailey Tells Leader's Role.

In opening the case for the crown, the attorney general charged that Casement had conducted a systematic campaign among the Irish prisoners in Germany with the purpose of seducing them from their allegiance. Bailey, he said, had been seduced in this manner and had made a statement explaining Casement's actions in detail.

According to the attorney general, Bailey was born in Dublin and joined the royal Irish rifles in 1904. He served with his regiment in India and was honorably discharged. On the outbreak of the European war Bailey was called out as a reservist, and sailed with the original expeditionary force to France. He was taken prisoner in September, 1914.

The attorney general said Bailey had related how a large number of Irish prisoners had been collected from various prisons in Germany and placed in a large camp at Limburg. There they heard addresses by Casement, who tried to inflame their minds against the British government and persuade them to break their oaths of allegiance and support him in his projected expedition to Ireland.

The attorney general said Casement

(Continued On Page Twelve.)

CONFEDERATE VETS HOLDING REUNION

Birmingham, Ala., May 15.—This city was thronged with confederate veterans and visitors here today to participate in the 26th annual confederate reunion which begins tomorrow. The vanguard of the old soldiers and visitors began to arrive yesterday and incoming regular and special trains today brought thousands of others.

General Bennett H. Young of Louisville, Ky., commander in chief of the United Confederate veterans, and his chief of staff, General W. E. Nickle of New Orleans, are here together with most of the departmental commanders, sponsors, maids and matrons of honor.